

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A communications system receives fax image data encoded with a specific facsimile data format and carrying transmission codes having no relation with image contents, converts the received fax image data into Internet-fax data in a specific format, and transfers the Internet-fax data to an Internet terminal as an in-system terminal. The communications system includes a receiver to receive the fax image data supplied via a regular communications network, a comparator to compare an encoding mode for the received fax image data and an encoding mode for the Internet-fax data for the Internet terminal, a converter to add format data for the Internet-fax data to the fax image data with no decoding of the fax image data if there is a match in the comparison, for converting the format data-added fax image data into the Internet fax data, and a transmitter to transmit the converted Internet fax data to the Internet terminal.